MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, JANUARY 27, 1954.

A Special Meeting of the Board of Public Works was held in the office of the Governor, Mathieson Building, Baltimore, Maryland, on Wednesday, January 27, 1954.

There were present:

Theodore R. McKeldin, Governor J. Millard Tawes, Comptroller Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer.

STATE OFFICE BUILDING - Baltimore:

Mr. Albert P. Backhaus, of the Department of Public Improvements and Secretary of the State Office Building Committee, submitted a memorandum covering a meeting which was held December 17, 1953, in the office of Mr. J. W. Follin, the Director of the Division of Slum Clearance and Urban Development of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, Washington, D.C., in connection with arriving at an understanding as to what might be expected from the Federal Government by the way of contribution to the Re-development Project known as Area 12, Baltimore, where the State is interested because of planning to use a part of the area as a site for the State Office Building to be erected in Baltimore.

After due discussion, it was decided that the State should make a definite proposal to the City of Baltimore with respect to an agreement which the State would be willing to enter into with the City, setting forth the amounts which the State would be willing to make available in connection with the financing of the project. It was agreed that the State would be willing to pay \$1,200,-000.00 for the land to be used by the State as a site for its building operations; and, further, that the State would be willing to contribute \$1,000,000 toward the cost to be incurred by Baltimore City in the over-all re-development project. The \$1,000,000 as a contribution would be forthcoming out of a bond issue to be authorized at the 1954 Session of the General Assembly, which bond issue would specifically include an item of \$1,000,000 to be used in taking care of the State's contribution toward the cost of the re-development project.

The Board authorized Mr. Backhaus, Mr. Randall, and Mr. McCusker to confer with the Attorney General, for the purpose of writing a letter to the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, outlining the State's willingness to enter into such an agreement.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board copies of Bulletins which had been received from the Conference on State Defense relative to the action of the House Ways and Means Committee of the United States Congress, in connection with a Bill before that Committee under which the interest on certain State and Municipal bonds would be taxable.

The Secretary stated that Maryland had always opposed efforts of this kind in the past and that all of the states had been cooperating in opposing such legislation.

The Secretary was instructed to contact the Maryland members of the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, and to advise them that the Board of Public Works of the State of Maryland is opposed to the proposed legislation by Congress, and to request them to use their best efforts to prevent the passage of the legislation.

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ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary.